

REMARKS

Status of the claims

Claims 1-25 are pending and claims 1-8 are under consideration in this application, claims 9-25 having been withdrawn from consideration for allegedly being drawn to separate inventions.

In response to the comments in the Office Action, Applicants have deleted the term "Previously presented" from claims 3, 4, and 6-8 and replaced it with the word "Original". Use of the term "Previously presented" in these claims in the Amendment and Response filed June 9, 2004, was an inadvertent error and Applicants apologize for the inconvenience it caused. It is not clear to Applicants whether the substantive amendments made to claims 1 and 2 in the Amendment and Response filed on June 9, 2004, have been entered and thus those amendments are repeated herein.

After entry of the amendments made herein, claims 1-25 will be pending and claims 1-8 will be under consideration in this application.

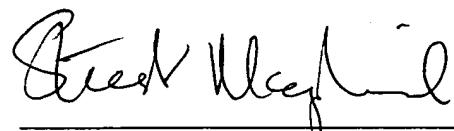
Applicant : Shigeo Yoshida et al.  
Serial No. : 10/003,446  
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Page : 8 of 8

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/29/04

  
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